

# ESSEX HARBOR MANAGEMENT COMMISSION



**Town of Essex  
29 West Avenue  
Essex, CT 06426**

**Regular Meeting  
Thursday, October 27, 2016  
Meeting Room A**

## **1. Call to Order**

Chairman Jeff Going called the regularly scheduled meeting of the Essex Harbor Management Commission to order at 7:30 p.m.

## **2. Attendance**

### **Members Present**

- Earl Fowler, Alternate
- Jeff Going, Chairman
- Kit Schellens, Alternate
- John Senning
- Terry Stewart, Treasurer
- Walter Wiegert
- Joe Zaraschi, Vice Chairman

### **Ex Officio Members Present**

- Paul Riggio, Harbor Master

### **Others Present**

- John Bogaert
- Wright Carreau, Collins Lane, Essex Resident
- Katherine Connolly, Collins Lane, Essex Resident
- Doug Dominie, Brewer Dauntless Shipyard & Marina
- Roger Field
- Keith Neilson, Docko, Inc.
- John O'Connell

## **3. Approval of September Regular Meeting Minutes**

The September 22, 2016 regular meeting minutes were reviewed.

***Motion: Terry Stewart moved to approve the September 22, 2016 regular meeting minutes. Walter Wiegert seconded the motion. Those in favor: John Senning, Terry Stewart, Walter Wiegert, and Joe Zaraschi; 4-0-0 motion unanimously approved.***

#### **4. Public Comment**

None.

#### **5. Financial Report**

Terry Stewart presented the October 27, 2016 Treasurer's report.

***Motion: Joe Zaraschi moved to approve the October 27, 2016 Treasurer's report. John Senning seconded the motion. Those in favor: John Senning, Joe Zaraschi, and Walter Wiegert, Terry Stewart abstained; 3-0-1 motion approved.***

Two invoices were presented for approval:

- Betsy McLaughlin, Clerk - \$296.08 for October Clerk Services
- Betsy McLaughlin, Clerk - \$6.00 Reimbursement for certified, return receipt nonrenewal letter

***Motion: Walter Wiegert moved to approve the invoices presented. Joe Zaraschi seconded the motion. Those in favor: John Senning, Terry Stewart, Walter Wiegert, and Joe Zaraschi; 4-0-0 motion unanimously approved.***

#### **6. Harbor Master Report**

- **Wait List Requests**

- Thomas Dolan, Meadows, check dated 9/27/16

- **Sabbatical Requests**

- Charles Fox
- Michael Tagatac

- **Mooring Permit Renewals**

Sixty-four out of 121 mooring permit renewal applications have been received to date.

- **Meadows Anchorage/Essex Boat Club**

Paul had invited members of the Essex Boat Club to attend the meeting to talk about better organization and management of the layout in the Meadows to achieve maximum efficiency and to get their opinion on tightening up the spacing to allow for more boats. John Bogaert, Roger Field, and John O'Connell attended the meeting to discuss. The layout in the Meadows has been "do it yourself" in the past and appears to allow for more spacing between boats than the other mooring areas. The Commission's concern is that it is the only area in the Harbor that is not laid out with the Harbor Master's oversight to ensure proper positioning of the boats yet he is ultimately responsible for any incidents that may occur as a result of improper placement. John Bogaert described the measured and methodical process that

he uses in determining the layout, and Roger Field and John O'Connell expressed their concerns about tightening up the spacing any more than it already is.

After lengthy discussion, John Bogaert stated that he welcomes and understands the need to welcome the Harbor Master's involvement. It was agreed that Paul Riggio will work with them in the future to establish the mooring locations and see if we can shorten up the rows somewhat.

### **Harbor Management Business**

- **Capital Projects:** None.
- **Town Access Ways:** None.

### **7. Correspondence**

A notice was received from CT DEEP that the COP for rock pile removal is expiring. Jeff will request an extension.

### **8. New Business**

Paul Riggio received a request from Katherine Connolly on behalf of "Friends of Middle Cove" about a potential dredge at the end of Collins Lane and invited her to the meeting to discuss.

Friends of Middle Cove is a small group of neighbors who are in support of this project, some of whom were present at the meeting. Katherine Connolly presented the idea on their behalf, which is to dredge the area out to the main water in an effort to restore the inlet that is drying up and the public access way out to the main water for boater safety reasons and to protect the wild life and environment. They are seeking the Harbor Management Commission's initial support of the concept as a starting point.

The suggested project was discussed, and the Commission cautioned them as to what might result from this, such as increased parking and traffic in that area. They were also advised of the process for moving forward with the project.

Keith Neilson asked if there was any reason at this point that the proposed project might be inconsistent with the Harbor Management Plan. The Commission does not see a problem with it at this point from a concept point of view and agrees with it in principal, with the understanding that the project is only looking at dredging for the purpose of boat access and environmental cleanup, not for docks.

### **Old Business**

- **Confiscated Vessel Auction**

John Senning is in the process of evaluating a new statute that allows for marine operators to dispose of vessels. The new statute would allow for a less expensive way of disposing of our small vessels than the statute we have been adhering to but he needs to determine whether it has application to our circumstance. He has been in communication with DEEP about this but doesn't have a clear answer yet and will continue to work on it.

- **Harbor Management Plan Update**

No update.

- **Newsletter**

No update.

Jeff noted that we haven't heard anything on the Foxboro Point Docking Facility Proposal and will follow up with DEEP for an update if needed.

Jeff also noted that the C Yes/No piling hasn't been fixed yet and he has a call in to Connecticut River Dock and Dredge who have been asked to fix this.

### **Other**

Joe Zaraschi stated that we may want to consider making the moorings in Middle Cove bow to stern permits and running parallel.

### **11. Adjournment**

*Motion: Joe Zaraschi moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:53 p.m. John Senning seconded the motion. Those in favor: John Senning, Terry Stewart, Walter Wiegert, and Joe Zaraschi; 4-0-0 motion unanimously approved.*

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**Betsy McLaughlin, Clerk**